may not be achieved by banning or capping the export of iron ore but by taking recourse to appropriate fiscal measures. Accordingly, export duty at different rates was imposed on iron ore from time to time. At present, the rates of duty on iron ore export is following:-

(i) Iron ore fines-fall sorts)	-	Nil
(ii) Iron ore other than fines (including lumps & pellets)	-	5% ad-valorem

Setting up of processing plants by SAIL

†1636. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:
Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) when a decision to set up processing plant in some States had been taken by the Steel Authority of India;

(b) the present status of these processing plants and the plant-wise production capacity thereof; and

(c) by when production would be started in these plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) The Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has decided to install Steel Processing Units (SPU) at various locations of the country.

(b) and (c) The SPUs are proposed to be set up at Bettiah, Manar and Gaya in Bihar, Hosihangabad, Ujjain and Gwalior in Madhya Pradesh, Guwahati in Assam, Srinagar in Jammu and Kashmir, Lakhimpur in Uttar Pradesh and Kangra in Himachal Pradesh.

The SPU at Bettiah was accorded final approval by SAIL in July, 08. The pipe/tube mill is likely to have a production capacity of 50,000 tonne per annum (tpa) and the other operations proposed include: Corrugation of Galvanised sheets (20,000 tpa); Cut to length facilities for Galvanised coil (20,000 tpa); and Slitting Line for Hot Rolled Coil (60,000 tpa). The civil/structural works and supply of equipment for this SPU are in progress. The production at Bettiah is expected to commence in January, 2010.

National Joint Consultative Committee on Steel

†1637. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the National Joint Consultative Committee on Steel (N.J.C.C.S.);

(b) the number and the names of members of it;

(c) the procedure to set up this Committee;

(d) the number of meetings held till date and the decisions taken therein till date;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.